

Amendment**U.S. Patent Application No. 10/672,269****REMARKS**

Applicants would like to extend thanks to the Examiner for conducting a telephone interview on September 8, 2005. The participants during the interview included Examiner Richard Bueker, attorney for the applicants, Aisha Ahmad, inventors, Dr. Richard Fernsler, and Dr. Scott Watson. The claims discussed included independent claims 1 and 14. The prior art discussed was of record, and no agreement was reached. Ms. Ahmad argued that the Walton reference (Aug. 5, 2002) disclosed a pulsed electron beam as compared to the claimed "continuous electron beam." In addition, Examiner Bueker asserted that "continuous" needed some definition in terms of time the beam was being continuously operated. Finally, Examiner Bueker agreed to review claim 14 being rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102 (b), or in the alternative under 35 U.S.C. § 103 (a) as obvious over Ohtake.

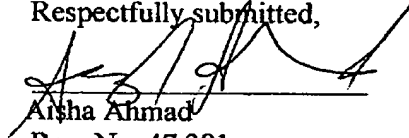
The Examiner objects to the disclosure due to informalities. Applicants have carefully reviewed the specification, and it is believed that each and every issue raised by the Examiner has been addressed by the amendments to the specification. Moreover, Applicants have made corrections to the drawings in light of the Examiner's comments in the office Action mailed July 7, 2005. Specifically, Applicants have removed element 106 from Fig. 1 because it was not identified in the specification. Corrected drawing sheets were submitted with the previous amendment filed on September 14, 2005.

Applicants hereby petition for any extension of time which may be required to maintain the pendency of this case, and any required fee for such extension is to be

charged to Deposit Account No. 50-0281. In the event that there is a credit due, please credit Deposit Account No. 50-0281.

Oct. 18, 2005
Date

Respectfully submitted,


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